



Homesick
First Sunday of Advent

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, November 28

*All are invited to sing during the congregational songs in worship!
We ask that you please **wear a mask at all times while indoors** out of an abundance of caution
and out of respect for the health and safety of all people joining us for worship.*

Prelude

"Homeward Bound"

Heather Choplin, Cathy Perkinson and Christian McIvor

Words and music by
Paul Simon

I'm sitting in the railway station.
Got a ticket for my destination, mmmm.
On a tour of one-night stands my suitcase and guitar in hand.
And every stop is neatly planned for a poet and one-man band.

Chorus:

Homeward bound, I wish I was,
Homeward bound,
Home where my thought's escaping
Home where my music's playing,
Home where my love lies waiting
Silently for me.

Verse 2:

Every day's an endless stream
Of cigarettes and magazines, mmmm
And each town looks the same to me, the movies and the factories
And ev'ry stranger's face I see reminds me that I long to be,

(Chorus)

Verse 3:

Tonight I'll sing my songs again,
I'll play the game and pretend, mmmm
But all my words come back to me in shades of mediocrity
Like emptiness in harmony I need someone to comfort me.

(Chorus)

Silently for me.

Welcome

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† Call to Worship

Steve Rose

One: Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

**All: We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**

One: Yes, we are homesick—

**All: for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.**

One: We are homesick for the world God promises.

All: We are homesick, but we are on our way.

One: God is here. God is still creating.

All: Let us worship Holy God.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Karen Brewer, Jackie Cronin

Opening Song

"Close to Home"
Christian McIvor

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2021

*Pastor Christian has written an original song for our Advent theme, "Close to Home."
Please direct your attention to the screen for the lyrics as we learn it together this morning.*

Children's Message

April Alston

† Offertory Hymn 244 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL;
Words by Charles Wesley,
Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard,
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

† Doxology

"Doxology for Advent"

VENI EMMANUEL;
Words by Thomas Ken,
Plainsong Melody adapt. Thomas Helmore

Em G C D⁷ G D G C G

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm⁷ Em Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D Em

here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D⁷ G D Em Bm G

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D⁷ Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Prayer of Dedication

Jerry Chiles

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-36

Joanne Thompson

Sermon

"Homesick"

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Silent Reflection

Musical Reflection

"Canticle of the Turning: My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" GBC Adult Choir

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Choir

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
you fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain - All



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to _ turn.

Choir

2. Though I am small my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy shall last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*
3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*
4. Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near and the world is about to turn.

Invitation

† Hymn of Response

“Home is Home, However Lowly”

BEACH SPRING;

Words by Arthur Arnott,

Music by Benjamin F. White

Home is home, however lowly,
Home is sweet when love is there,
Home is home when hearts are holy,
Earth has ne'er a spot so fair.
Jesus makes our home a heaven,
Sacred in the fireside warm;
After battling through the long day,
Home's a shelter from the storm.

To a little home in Bethany
Jesus loved to wend his way;
Tender hearts were waiting for him
In the evening of the day.
Jesus there dispelled the sadness,
There the humble meal he blessed;
There they worshipped him with gladness;
There his sacred form would rest.

Let us make our home the threshold
Of the city bright and fair,
Each the other's joy possessing,
Each the other's burden share.
In the storm of deep affliction
Let us seek the heavenly balm,
In life's tempest just remember
Prayer will make the storm a calm.

Benediction

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

As you leave this service, your service begins:
Comfort the homesick.
Open your doors to others.
Seek sanctuary.
Be brave enough to go home by another way.
And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come back soon.
In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son—
go in peace.

Postlude

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Tim Hendrix

Plainchant,
arr. Lloyd Larson

Today's mission offering benefits North Raleigh Ministries. Just down the street from Greystone, North Raleigh Ministries offers curbside grocery assistance to neighbors in need of food including fresh produce, meat, pantry staples, baked goods and hygiene products. There are many reasons that bring people to NRM in need of food and assistance. Homesick doesn't always mean longing to return to a physical place. Sometimes, homesick is longing for our home to return or to finally be what we desire most in our hearts. Our offerings of comfort foods for NRM may be just what one of our **homesick** neighbors needs this holiday season.

Next week's mission offering benefits Hope Center. An independent non-profit currently housed at Pullen Memorial, Hope Center empowers emerging adults who are transitioning out of foster care in Wake County with the support and connections needed for a safe and stable adulthood. Through our monetary offering we can help **Lay the Foundation** for a young adult by providing the funds needed for a security deposit on their first apartment.

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Greystone Prayers and Praises

- Duane Long
- Donna Naeser
- Cathy Smith
- Chris Allen
- Carl Dawson's sister-in-law, Jo Dawson
- Sandra Hunt's father, Lloyd Parrish
- Joy Croom Griffin's husband, Ray Griffin
- Sylvia Cash's friend, Peggy Vaughan
- Sylvia Cash's friend, Juanita Luna
- Natalie Herrmann's mother, Lois Pfeifer
- John Vestals family on the death of his sister-in-law, Kim Radwick, 11/22/21
- Deanna Choplin's family on the recent death of her cousin, Vic Thompson

Residential Health Care Facilities / Long Term Care

- Springmoor (SHC): Greta McMillan
- Sunrise at North Hills: Martha Castleberry, Sharon Wertz

Minister On-Call Phone: (919) 817-8975

Connect:

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Website: www.greystonechurch.org | Facebook: @greystonebaptistchurch | Instagram: @greystonechurch



*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones,
where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love
by word and deed to all people.*

Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6